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They not only attack the living, but the dead. They scratch up with their feet the new-made graves, and devour the corpse how putrid soever. In those countries, therefore, where they abound, they are obliged to beat the earth over the grave, and to mix it with thorns, to prevent the jackals from scraping it away. They always assist each other as well in this employment of exhumation as in that of the chase. While they are at this dreary work, they exhort each other by a most mournful cry, resembling that of children under chastisement; and when they have thus dug up the body, they share it amicably between them. These, like all other savage animals, when they have once tasted of human flesh, can never after refrain from pursuing mankind. They watch the burying-grounds, follow armies, and keep in the rear of caravans. They may be considered as the vulture of the quadruped kind; every thing that once had animal life seems equally agreeable to them; the most putrid substances are greedily devoured; dried leather, and any thing that has been rubbed with grease, how insipid soever in itself, is sufficient to make the whole go down.

They hide themselves in holes by day, and seldom appear abroad till nightfall, when the jackal that has first hit upon the scent of some larger beast gives notice to the rest by a howl, which it repeats as it runs; while all the rest that are within hearing, pack in to its assistance. The gazelle, or whatever other beast it may be, finding itself pursued, makes off towards the houses and the towns, hoping by this means to deter its pursuers from following; but hunger gives the jackal the same degree of boldness that fear gives the gazelle, and it pursues even to the verge of the city, and often along the streets. The gazelle, however, by this means most frequently escapes; for the inhabitants, sallying out, often disturb the jackal in the chase; and as it hunts by the scent, when once driven off, it never recovers it again. In this manner we see how experience prompts the gazelle, which is naturally a very timid animal, and particularly fearful of man himself, to take refuge near him, considering him as the least dangerous enemy, and often escaping by his assistance.

But man is not the only intruder upon the jackal's industry and pursuits. The lion, the tiger, and the panther, whose appetites are superior to their swiftness, attend to its call, and follow in silence at some distance behind. The jackal pursues the whole night with unceasing assiduity, keeping up the cry, and with great perseverance at last tires down its prey; but, just at the moment it supposes itself going to share the fruits of its labour, the lion or the leopard comes in, satiates himself upon the spoil, and his poor provider must be content with the bare carcass he leaves behind. It is not to be wondered at, therefore, if the jackal be voracious, since it so seldom has a sufficiency; nor that it feeds on putrid substances, since it is not permitted to feast on what it has newly killed. Beside these enemies, the jackal has still another to cope with, for between him and the dog there is an irreconcilable antipathy, and they never part without an engagement. The Indian peasants often chase them as we do foxes, and have learned by experience when they have got a lion or a tiger in their rear. Upon such occasions they keep their dogs close, as they would be no match for such formidable animals, and endeavour to put them to flight with their cries. When the lion is dismissed, they more easily cope with the jackal, who is as stupid as it is impudent, and seems much better fitted for pursuing than retreating. It sometimes happens that one of them steals silently into an outhouse to seize the poultry or devour the furniture, but hearing others in full cry at a distance, without thought it instantly answers the call, and thus betrays its own depredations. The peasants sally out upon it, and the foolish animal finds too late that its instinct was too powerful for its safety.

NATURALIST'S LIBRARY.

Another interesting volume, very much to our taste—mingling the *utile et dulce* in a way well calculated to effect

* The Naturalist's Library.—Mammalia, Vol. IV. Ruminantia, Part II. By Sir William Jardine, Bart. Edinburgh; W. H. Lizars.

the objects for which such publications are designed. To the scientific descriptions of the various animals are subjoined many amusing anecdotes and traits of character; and the work is prefaced by an interesting memoir of the justly celebrated John Hunter, whose elegantly arranged and scientifically classified museum of natural history was purchased at his death by Government, and is now so well known as the "Hunterian Museum of London." The description of its arrangement and classification by Sir E. Home will be perused with much interest by the scientific student and scholar.

In the details given of the various bovine tribes, there is a most interesting account of "the white urus"—a breed of wild cattle, which have been preserved in Scotland, in all their native and original characteristics, since the time at which the Romans first visited Britain.

"This very ancient and peculiar breed of cattle," says Mr. Brown, Chamberlain to the Duke of Hamilton, "has been long kept up with great care by the noble family of Hamilton, in a chase in the vicinity of their splendid seat at Hamilton, in the Middle Ward of the county of Lanark. They are generally believed to be the remains of the ancient breed of white cattle which were found on the island when the Romans first visited it, and which they represent as then running wild in the woods. The chase in which they browse was formerly a park or forest attached to the royal castle of Cadzow, where the ancient British kings of Strathclyde, and subsequently kings of Scotland, used frequently to reside and hold their courts.... In their general habits they resemble the fallow-deer more than any other domestic animal. Having been exposed, without shade or covering of any sort, to the rigours of our climate from time immemorial, they are exceedingly hardy; and having never been caught or subjected to the sway of man, they are necessarily peculiarly wild and intractable. Their affection for their young, like that of many other animals in a wild or half-wild state, is excessive. When dropt, they carefully conceal them among long grass or weeds in some brushwood or thicket, and approach them cautiously twice or thrice a day, for the purpose of supplying them with the necessary nourishment. On these occasions it is not a little dangerous to approach the place of retreat, the parent cow being seldom at any great distance, and always attacking any person or animal approaching it, with the utmost resolution and fury. The young calves, when unexpectedly approached, betray great trepidation, by throwing their ears back close upon their necks, and lying squat down upon the ground. When hard pressed, they have been known to run at their keepers in a butting menacing attitude, in order to force their retreat. The young are produced at all seasons of the year, but chiefly in spring. The mode of catching the calves is to steal upon them whilst slumbering or sleeping in their retreat when they are a day or two old, and put a cloth over their mouths, to prevent them crying, and then carry them off to a place of safety without the reach of the herd, otherwise the cry of the calf would attract the dam, and she, by loud bellowing, would bring the whole flock to the spot to attack the keeper in the most furious manner. These cattle are seldom seen scattering themselves indiscriminately over the pasture, like other breeds of cattle, but are generally observed to feed in a flock. They are very chary of being approached by strangers, and seem to have the power of smelling them at a great distance. When any one approaches them unexpectedly, they generally scamper off to a little distance to the leeward, and then turn round in a body to smell him. In these gambols they invariably affect circles; and when they do make an attack—which is seldom the case—should they miss the object of their aim, they never return upon it, but run straight forward, without ever venturing to look back. The only method of slaughtering these animals is by shooting at them. When the keepers approach them for this purpose, they seem perfectly aware of their danger, and always gallop off with great speed in a dense mass, preserving a profound silence, and generally keeping by the sides of the fields and fences. The cows which have young, in the mean time forsake the flock, and repair to the places where their calves are concealed, where, with flaming eyeballs and palpitating hearts, they

seem resolved to maintain their ground at all hazards. The shooters always take care to avoid these retreats. When the object of pursuit is one of the older bulls of the flock, the shooting of it is a very hazardous employment. Some of these have been known to receive as many as eleven bullets, without one of them piercing their skulls. When fretted in this manner, they often become furious, and owing to their great swiftness and prodigious strength, they are then regarded as objects of no ordinary dread.

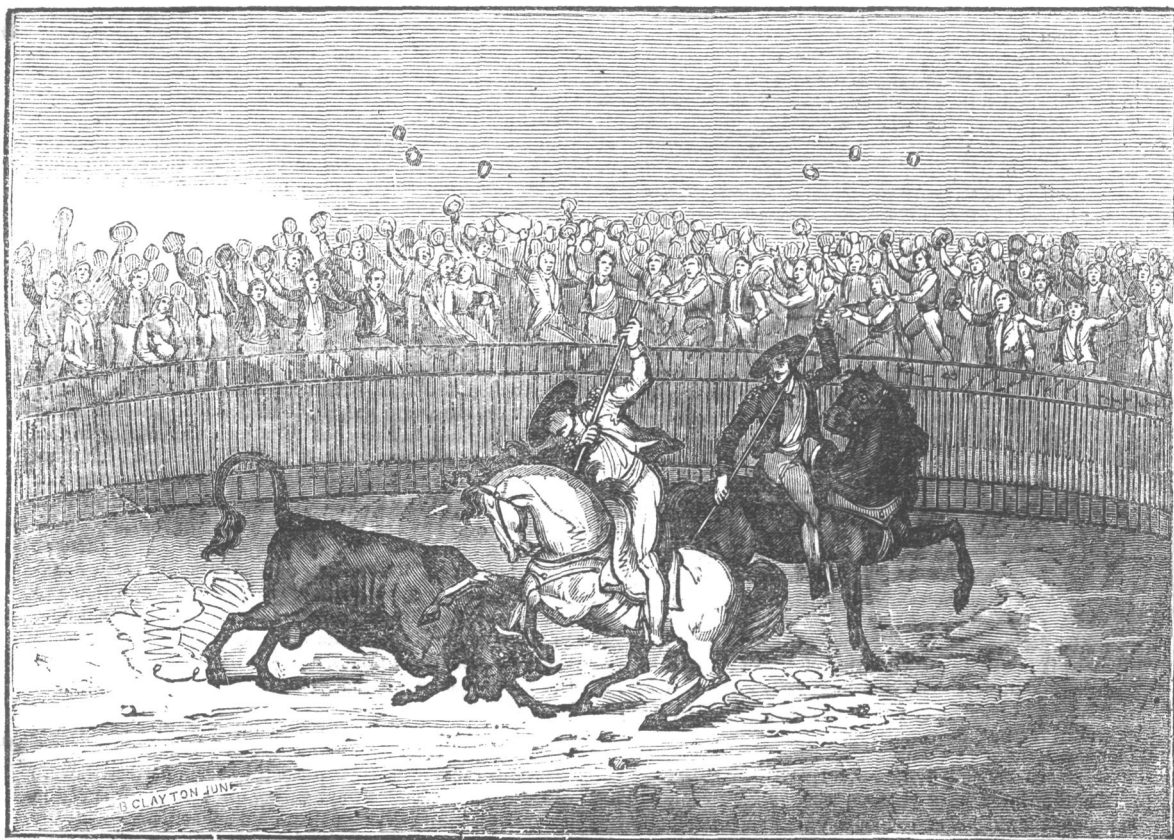
"The ancient history of this breed is involved in much mystery. From fossil remains, chiefly found in marl-pits, it appears that two species of the ox tribe formerly prevailed in Scotland, namely, the *bos taurus* and the *bos urus*. Some heads of these, of very large dimensions, are still preserved in the collections of the curious. Professor Fleming of Aberdeen informs us that he has a skull of the former in his possession, measuring $27\frac{1}{2}$ inches in length, 9 inches between the horns, and $11\frac{1}{2}$ inches across at the orbits. The accounts of ancient authors certainly allude to a species of wild cattle very different in their characters and dimensions from those of the present day. The universal tradition in Clydesdale is, that they have been at Cadzow from the remotest antiquity; and the probability is, that they are a part remaining of the establishment of our ancient British and Scottish kings. At present they are objects of great curiosity, both to the inhabitants, and to strangers visiting the place. During the troubles consequent on the death of Charles I., and the usurpation of Cromwell, they were nearly exterminated; but a breed of them having been retained for the Hamilton family by Hamilton Dalzell, and by Lord Elphinstone at Cumbernauld, they were subsequently restored in their original purity." * * *

"In Chillingham Park they roam at large, and there are between 1500 and 1800 acres enclosed, combining, besides good pasture, a range of wild and rocky moor, interspersed with abundant wood and cover for their shelter, and approaching, as near as any enclosure can do, to the wild na-

ture of their original habitation.... They go in herds, and on the approach of a stranger, after standing to gaze, like many other wild animals, wheel round him in a circle, which, if he is so imprudent as to remain, will be gradually narrowed till an attack is made. During the breeding season it is more dangerous to approach, as the calls of the young will always incite the parent or herd to attack the aggressor. When pursued or baited, they become very fierce, as they also do if but slightly wounded by a ball. Lord Ossulton had a narrow escape from a bull which had been wounded and separated from the herd. It attacked him on horseback, and at the first onset overthrew and gored the horse to death. One of the keepers was also tossed and severely maimed by a wounded bull. * *

"The mode of killing these cattle, Mr. Bewick remarks, 'was perhaps the only modern remains of the grandeur of ancient hunting. On notice being given that a wild bull would be killed on a certain day, the inhabitants of the neighbourhood came mounted, and armed with guns, &c. and sometimes to the amount of an hundred horse, and four or five hundred foot, who stood upon walls, or got into trees, while the horsemen rode off the bull from the rest of the herd, until he stood at bay, when a marksman dismounted, and shot. At some of these huntings twenty or thirty shots have been fired before he was subdued. On such occasions the bleeding victim grew desperately furious, from the smarting of his wounds, and the shouts of savage joy that were echoing from every side.'"

In speaking of the domestic breeds, there is a description of a bull-fight in Spain, taken from the "Encyclopædia Edinensis." The following we copy from a very interesting work, which we should long since have noticed, "A Year in Spain, by a Young American," whom we are glad to see once more before the public in a description of English life and manners. On the whole, we consider the little volume before us to be fully as interesting as any of its predecessors, if not more so. The work, when completed, will form a valuable portion of a juvenile library.



SPANISH BULL-FIGHT.

"The bull-fight is the great national amusement of Spain—an amusement which, though cruel and brutalizing, is nevertheless unequalled in deep and anxious interest. It has furnished matter of much learned discussion, whe-